



# COMMUNITY SERVICE NEWSLETTER

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*COMMUNITY SERVICE NEWSLETTER is published six times a year by Community Service, Inc. Our purpose is to promote the small community as a basic social institution involving organic units of economic, social and spiritual development.*

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## Reuse, Recycle and Revitalize

by Barbara Ruben

*Condensed with permission from the 1994 summer issue of Environmental Action.*

Preventing plastic bottles, tabled coffee tables, scrap lumber and castoff clothing from finding their final resting place in a landfill or incinerator is reward enough by some standards. But some reuse and recycling companies have moved a step further. Coupling environmental benefits with job creation and community involvement, they are able to play a vital role in shaping the local economy.

Across the country, dozens of such locally-owned companies are trying to make a go of providing goods for low-income residents and jobs and training for people who are chronically unemployed. Some of the businesses are flourishing; others struggling, sometimes because of pressure from giant waste-hauling companies whose economy of scale are no match for the tiny community-oriented organizations.

Environmental Action surveyed [some] of these companies to find out what they offer their communities and their employees. The answers are as varied as the businesses themselves.

### Arcata Community Recycling Center Arcata, California

A group of Vista volunteers and conscientious objectors to the Vietnam war founded the nonprofit Arcata Community Recycling Center shortly after Earth Day 1970. "It was an experiment in job creation and job training, with the environment in mind," says Kate Krebs, the center's executive director and 17-year veteran.

The center processes roughly 3,000 tons of materials per year in its collection center and store, which sells reusables and operates a business waste exchange. The center provides recycling collection of newsprint, high-grade paper, glass and aluminum to residents of Arcata as well as business and commercial customers.

The center is run by 10 core staff members, supplemented by a half-time position funded by the federal Senior Community Services Program, several part-time work-study students and a few people fulfilling community service requirements from courts or welfare.

Employee wages range from \$5.25 to \$8.25 an hour, and health insurance is provided to all employees. Employees climb the wage scale at six-month intervals, reaching the top at 18 months.... "Providing health coverage and sick leave is critical in getting new employees in the door, despite our low wage scale," says Krebs. Also contributing to the ease in finding good help for low wages is Humboldt County's high unemployment rate and low median income – only \$21,000.

The presence of the center has also created a ripple effect in the local economy. Three new recycling-based businesses now taking off in Arcata will use materials collected and processed by the Arcata Community Recycling Center. A local artist is launching a handmade papermaking company in a warehouse across the street from the center. The paper company will use a mix of chlorine-free new paper pulp and the center's otherwise unmarketable mixed paper residue. Another local entrepreneur is in the process of patenting and demonstrating a new wallboard product made from concrete and shredded paper or plastic....

The center tends to run at a small loss: last year it was \$9,200 out of a \$416,000 budget. Higher wages, new equipment and new programs have been sacrificed due to tight cash flow.... But Krebs notes that the California Integrated Waste Management Board has recently declared Arcata a Recycling Market Development Zone, and the center has been able to apply for low-interest loans under the program to finance expansion of the processing center.

*Arcata Community Recycling Center, 1380 9th Street, Arcata, CA 95521, (707) 822-4542.*

### **SunShares Recycling** Durham, North Carolina

Begun 11 years ago with a primary mission to conserve resources, SunShares quickly learned that investing in people was as important as investing in machinery. The nonprofit business employs 50 people, has a \$2.5 million operating budget and pulls in 1,000 tons of material, from glass to aluminum, per month.

"Being a nonprofit is a big part of what makes us different," says Karen Smith, senior program manager for SunShares. "I think we've shown that being nonprofit doesn't mean you have to be limited to simply an educational purpose."

But education does come into play in helping make the company successful. Sixty-five percent of SunShare's revenue comes from recycling contracts with the city and county. Of the 1,000 tons collected per month, only about five tons of the material cannot be sold. SunShares attributes this success to an aggressive community and client education effort.

Some of that nonprofit difference is also apparent in SunShare's responsiveness to its employees. All staff decisions are made by consensus. After a year with the company, employees are eligible for the benefits program, which includes basic health care for employees and dependents, day care, life insurance, some retirement benefits and opportunities for staff development.

SunShares got off the ground through a three-partner "barn-raising" effort between SunShares, a local self-help credit union and funding from the federal government. Last year, the Clinton administration recognized the credit union as a model of local economic development, particularly because of the boost it gave SunShares.

SunShares works to cultivate ties with the area, hiring staff from local neighborhoods, marketing all material in-state, buying equipment from local sources and using locally-based transportation. Though they face heavy competition from international waste firms, SunShares' place in the community has helped keep them in business....

*SunShares, 1215 S. Briggs Avenue, Suite 100, Durham, NC 27703 (919) 596-1870.*

### **Community Warehouse** Albany, New York

Until last winter, when Albany-area businesses had old or excess furniture, office supplies or building materials, they would have to take the initiative of

calling needy groups in the area, hoping someone might want their castoffs. Then they'd have to figure out the logistics of moving bulky pieces of equipment around town. Many times, daunted by the time it took, they paid a waste hauler to take their used supplies to the landfill.

Now they can call the nonprofit Community Warehouse to pick up their goods and use the donation as a tax write-off. Community Warehouse stores the items and lets nonprofit and business members have them for a nominal handling fee. For example, a working refrigerator goes for \$25. An AIDS education organization, the multiple sclerosis society and Albany's Housing Commission are a few of the nonprofits that have profited from the warehouse.

Community Warehouse also performs what it calls "waste minimization assessments" for businesses, in which they look for ways companies can become more sustainable. In addition, Community Warehouse acts as a broker for a materials exchange in which unneeded solvents and other potentially hazardous refuse can be reused by other companies rather than thrown away.

The Community Warehouse grew out of the Albany-based nonprofit Barn Raisers, which helps nonprofit organizations do development and renovation work. The warehouse employs eight full-time employees and several subcontractors....

So successful has Community Warehouses' venture been, that it recently received \$500,000 grant from the state to start up a similar warehouse further east in Rensselaer County. "We've just really started to roll," Maryellen McPhee says.

*Community Warehouse, 227 South Pearl St., Albany, NY 12202 (518) 462-0139.*

### Tri-City Economic Development Corporation Union City, California

Employees come to the Tri-City Economic Development Corporation, Tri-CED for short, from a diversity of backgrounds. There are welfare recipients, refugees, ex-convicts, senior citizens and workers

in their 20s. "There are not many places where people from such different experiences get an idea of what it's like to work together," says Bruce Groulx, Tri-CED's chief executive officer.

Tri-CED collects a range of recyclables – from magazines to plastic bottles – from 27,000 households in Union City and Hayward in the San Francisco Bay area and employs 10 people. The funds to build Tri-CED came from grants and loans via the federal Community Reinvestment Act.

Tri-CED pays relatively high wages for a community recycling business, \$8.14 an hour for buy-back center workers and \$10.50 an hour for drivers. A union representative sits on the company's board of directors, and Tri-CED employees get first consideration for management positions when they become available.

In the past five years, Tri-CED has distributed \$100,000 in grants to community organizations from its profits. In addition, Groulx says he feels an obligation to get involved in the community in a variety of other ways. Tri-CED pays premium prices for recyclables donated by nonprofit organizations and also donates labor and operating costs to provide recycling services to nonprofits, schools and governments. Purchasing recyclables from residents living within a six-mile radius of Tri-CED put \$750,000 back into local economy last year.

*Tri-CED, 33300 Central Ave., Union City, CA 94587 (510) 471-3850.*

### Gulfcoast Recycling – Gulfport, Mississippi

When the Catholic charity LAOS Inc. relocated from suburban Washington, D.C., where it worked on national low-income policy issues, to the Mississippi coast, where many of its members lived in 1988, its first order of business was to ask what was most needed. The overwhelming answer was jobs.

Today, Gulfcoast has 21 full-time positions. The staff is hired from the immediate area, where the dropout and unemployment rates are 50 percent for African Americans. Many workers prior to coming to Gulfcoast were chronically unemployed. The

average employee stays only a year or two, but Gulfcoast director Penny Penrose views this as a positive sign that people are able to move on to other better-paying work. Employing a number of former welfare recipients, Gulfcoast is committed to paying better than the minimum wage, and starting wages are about \$6.50 an hour. Raises, though small, are designed to be a regular feature of work as are promotions; employees are considered for management positions as soon as possible, Penrose says. Employees span the age range, from 17 to 70.

"We are a workplace for people with a wide range of abilities and limitations. We tend to be more black than white and more women than men," Penrose says. "We hire people who frankly have experienced raw discrimination. Many people have no recourse when there have been civil rights violations. Some people choose to work here, despite the fact we may pay a little less, because it's an equitable workplace." All employees have an equal say in decisions such as new equipment purchases. "That's a radical experience for people in rural Mississippi," Penrose notes.

Half of Gulfcoast's \$432,000 budget comes from municipal collection contracts, and the rest is from a 236-client office paper recycling operation, sales of recovered material and grants. Gulfcoast also operates a small buy-back center for residents in Biloxi.

With the help of a supportive local media and a community education program developed by a former SunShares staff person, Gulfcoast spends the first month of every new contract educating the public about how to separate their recyclables. This kind of effort costs 16 percent of the total operation budget, but helps Gulfcoast avoid contamination during collections. Gulfcoast recycles approximately 110 to 120 tons of material per month, much of it made up of office paper and aluminum....

All the funds to start Gulfcoast came from the sale of LAOS Inc in Washington and a \$25,000 grant from a Community Development Block Grant program. LAOS plans to sell Gulfcoast when it reaches self-sufficiency, within the next two or three

years, Penrose says. Part of LAOS's mission in starting Gulfcoast Recycling was to train and generate its own management and ownership. The board is composed entirely of community members and is made up of a diversity of classes and ethnic backgrounds.

*Gulfcoast Recycling, 2401 "B" Avenue, Gulfport, MS 39507 (601) 863-8107.*

## Urban Ore – Berkeley, California

"We are doing a \$1.2 million retail business with things that people used to think were junk," says Urban Ore founder Daniel Knapp. From scrap metal to bathtubs to clothing, Urban Ore processes about 3,000 tons of reusable and recyclable materials per year at three sites.

The Building Materials Exchange buys, sells and trades a wide variety of used construction supplies, such as doors, windows, bathtubs, sinks, bricks and pipes. The General Store buys, sells and trades used furniture, electronics, cabinets, clothing, toys, books and antiques. The Discard Management Center, located at Berkeley's refuse transfer station, handles recyclables.

Most of Urban Ore's items are donated by the public. The vast majority of these products are sold back to members of the surrounding community. Knapp says that because the company knows its clientele, it knows what items can be resold. Only 3 percent of the items Urban Ore picks up are never bought or used. Knapp estimates that reusables are worth an average of about \$400 per ton.

Urban Ore [which began in 1980] employs 18 people full time, and employees tend to stay with the for-profit business for a long time [some longer than seven years]. "Our people find this work interesting, safe and environmentally and politically correct," explains Knapp.

Employees who are fully trained make a base pay of \$7.50 per hour, plus a bonus based on a combination of gross sales and the amount of salvaged goods collected, which adds \$2.50 to \$3.50 to the hourly wage. The company provides a comprehen-

sive health plan, and may soon institute a profit-sharing plan. Many employees were originally customers with a strong interest in the materials Urban Ore sells....

Community development was an explicit goal in the founding of Urban Ore, rooted in Knapp's background as an anti-poverty community organizer in the 1960s. Urban Ore was instrumental in defeating a proposed mass-burn incinerator in Berkeley and has worked with other area recycling and waste groups to redesign the city's refuse transfer station.

Urban Ore's information services division provides policy papers and general information to the public, both in and outside Berkeley. In addition to distributing leaflets and flyers and advertisements in local papers, site managers and employees spend time with customers in the stores explaining what materials they take and why....

Since its inception, Urban Ore has teetered on the edge of profitability. Most of [its] income comes from the General Store and the Building Materials Exchange. Information services runs at a deficit, however. In 1993, the business made about a \$9,000 profit on a \$1.2 million budget.

*Urban Ore (510) 235-0172.*

### The Loading Dock – Baltimore, Maryland

One of the country's most successful building materials reuse facilities, the Loading Dock, is one group other companies say they're trying to emulate.

Started from a nonprofit building contractor's garage a decade ago, the company employs 16 people, many of whom live in the surrounding inner-city Baltimore neighborhood. With health and retirement plans as well as life insurance, co-director Leslie Kirkland says benefits are extremely helpful in hiring and retaining workers.

The nonprofit Loading Dock takes in about 8,000 tons of castoff building equipment a year, ranging from wood cabinets and doors to sinks, paint and windows. Nonprofit and religious organizations as well as low-income people who have been referred to the company pay about 25 to 33 percent of what they would be paying for the materials retail. Kirkland says word of mouth is the best way of attracting new customers and donations....

The Loading Dock has worked to integrate itself into the local community by hosting home repair and energy conservation workshops, attending community group meetings and working with area churches and other religious organizations. Other businesses in the neighborhood, including a hardware store and a mall across the street, have also benefited from the increased traffic generated by the Loading Dock. The company is now in the process of starting a network to tie together the dozens of building materials reuse programs around the country.

*Loading Dock, 2523 Gwynns Falls Parkway, Baltimore, MD 21216 (410) 728-DOCK.*

*Solid waste policy analyst Resa Dimino and Alliance for a Sustainable Materials Economy coordinator Joe Razza contributed research for this article.*

## MOVING?

Please let us know your new address as soon as possible. Each returned copy of our Newsletter costs us 29 cents now, in addition to the original mailing charges, and will cost 33 cents next year.

### HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN WHEN YOUR SUBSCRIPTION EXPIRES?

Look at the date on your mailing label. We don't automatically cancel your subscription if you don't renew immediately, but we do remove your name from our mailing list if considerable time has passed or if the Post Office returns your Newsletter to us without a forwarding address. It is very expensive to send out first class reminders, as we did last spring.

# Creating a Cohousing Community

by James Klosterman and Kirsten Metzger

*This article appeared the February 10, 1994 issue of the Yellow Springs News.*

In an age of increasing social, environmental and economic concerns, it has become increasingly apparent that we must each take personal responsibility for contributing to the resolution of these problems. It is unrealistic to expect that our government, schools and churches should shoulder the entire burden of resolving these issues.

Perhaps it makes sense to look at the oldest institution of all, our home and neighborhood, for solutions. Our current housing arrangements make it difficult to share interpersonal and material resources, resulting in personal isolation and excessive consumerism. Both factors can be seen as a driving force behind our modern maladies.

In a book called *Cohousing: A Contemporary Approach to Housing Ourselves*, by Kathryn McCamant and Charles Durrett (Berkeley, CA: Habitat Press, Division of Ten-Speed Press, 1988), the authors describe how thousands of people around the world have already changed their living arrangements to bring about a more harmonious way of life.

Imagine living in your own affordable home, which you helped design, next to 20 similar homes clustered comfortably on ten acres you helped select. You and your neighbors have come to regard each other as extended family. You share common facilities for optional community dinners, child care, hobby rooms, and social activities. Your community's design emphasizes pedestrian interaction, placing cars in a central location to maintain green space for children's play areas, picnic tables and personal as well as community gardens.

In Denmark, where cohousing originated in the '70s, there are, as of 1989, 120 such cohousing developments and many more planned. Germany, Sweden, Japan and now the United States are catching on to the idea.

Anthropologically speaking, this way of living is nothing new to humans. All cultures began in small clusters of individual family dwellings. Cohousing rediscovers the wisdom of our ancestors' way of life and applies it to solving many of our modern problems.

Seeds of grassroots healing – economic, environmental and social – can be better sown in more intimate neighborhoods created by people who are dedicated to honoring their interconnectedness on a day-to-day basis. The shared facilities and close proximity of neighbors promote easier and more frequent networking of interpersonal and material resources. Altruism and creative problem-solving flourish for the benefit of everyone. A broader sense of personal dignity develops as residents have new opportunities to share their talents, interests, knowledge, skills and experiences. Residents often find that many of the ways they can be valued as individuals would not have been revealed in their lives were it not for cohousing.

This more tangible sense of belonging renews one's feeling of purpose and self-esteem, which is so necessary for the birth of a healthier society at large. It is not surprising that crime within cohousing communities is virtually nonexistent, divorce rates are lowered and other relationships strengthened. Cohousing is an ideal environment for children because of the safe, monitored play areas and easy access to playmates, mentors and activities.

The economic savings are numerous, thanks to:

1. Volume buying, permitted by standardization of fixtures and building materials used for each house in the community.
2. Sharing of big expense items (laundry facilities, lawnmowers, darkrooms, woodworking shops, etc.).
3. Networking of labor (repairs, child care, etc.).
4. Easy carpooling.
5. Reduced entertainment expenses, as residents create their own activities together.
6. Bulk buying of food for common dinners.
7. Overall scaling down of houses, thanks to shared facilities.

Cohousing designs are dictated by the needs of the

residents, as opposed to the wishes of the architects and builders, which, in pre-existing housing, results in overdesigned homes with exorbitant monthly payments. It is a way of life and a housing system that uses fewer natural resources; many communities use alternative energy sources in their designs. It allows us to house ourselves in a more environmentally sound way.

Cohousing communities are started by interested individuals coming together and deciding on the site, size and layout of their homes and community. After contracting with an architect and builder together, residents can plan on making their move in a relatively short time.

Residents maintain and manage their community together. Existing cohousing communities report that very few people later choose to sell their house in the community, although the demand from potential buyers is high. Residents have the joy of social interaction while maintaining their access to privacy. They enjoy a higher standard of living and yet have less monthly outlay. They have made the shift from isolation and subsequent excessive materialism to a life with more people-centered riches.

Judging from testimonials, in *Cohousing*, you couldn't trade a castle on a hill for what residents enjoy in their new, closely-knit communities!



## Virtual CoHousing: Creating Community in Existing Neighborhoods

by Ben Lipman

*This article appeared in the Spring 1994 issue of the Fellowship For Intentional Communities Newsletter.*

When people think about building community, usually there is thought about finding a large piece of

*terra firma*. As urban dwellers seek ways to cultivate a sense of togetherness, many groups have become daunted by CoHousing's requirement of a large tract of land, hiring a developer and raising large sums of money. In Boulder, Colorado, a group called TIMEWEAVE is developing a form of community that creates togetherness and affordable housing without requiring any new building: "Virtual CoHousing." In Virtual CoHousing, the social fabric of cooperation and sharing of resources is woven into the already existing structures of private ownership and/or cooperative households.

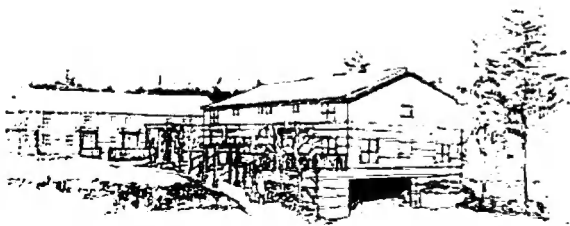
Imagine you and your friends sharing a common meal at each other's homes on a regular basis. A team has prepared the delicious fare and, by prior agreement, another team will clean up afterwards. You and your friends might also share more than meals; you may have a central gathering place where certain common resources, such as a large kitchen and dining area and perhaps workshop space and childcare facilities, are shared. You all live in cooperative households either rented or privately owned. Still others might live by themselves, coming together in community only during meals and other special occasions, having found their own personal balance of private and communal life. This concept has been dubbed "Virtual CoHousing" (by Matthew Yarus) because the social structure is very similar to CoHousing, yet there is no single residential cluster intended to house all the participants.

Although still in its infancy, TIMEWEAVE's Sustainable Living Project is modeling the Virtual CoHousing concept with members living in two houses, one owned by a community member and the other a conventional rental. The two households are within six blocks of the common facility, a building with several meeting rooms and office spaces.

Because it is readily accessible, can accommodate unusual requirements, and utilizes existing housing, Virtual CoHousing may be a significant form of urban community in the decades to come. Because people can form community in their own homes with their own favorite neighbors, this step toward cooperation can be easier than other kinds of commu-

nity-building. Visionaries who discuss the conversion of urban settlements to ecovillages take note: this may be an excellent path for those who yearn to live more cooperatively and more lightly on this planet.

*Ben Lipman is an alternate on the Board of Directors for the Fellowship of Intentional Communities. The above is part of an article which appeared in the Winter 1994 issue of CoHousing journal (\$25.00/yr, P.O. Box 2584, Berkeley, CA 94702).*



## 1994 CSI Conference

### Building Community With Affordable Housing

#### Supportive Environment and Cooperative Living

The theme of our fall Conference, October 14-16 in Yellow Springs, will be "Building Community with Affordable Housing." This topic will include concern for a supportive environment for both people and nature, and cooperative living arrangements.

Ken Norwood, architect and planner, and director of Shared Living Resource Center in Berkeley, California, will give the keynote talk Friday night. He is co-author, with Kathleen Smith, of the to-be-published *Rebuilding Community in America: Housing for Ecological Living, Personal Empowerment and the New Extended Family*.

The Shared Living Resource Center was started by Ken Norwood in 1987 to bring innovative design to ecological housing and cooperative community

living. His work is grounded in his belief that personal and social fulfillment, affordability, energy and resource conservation, and healthful and supportive living environments can be accomplished through cooperative community living. He will lead a small group session or workshop around these concerns on Saturday, October 15.

Mary Meyer and Richard Cartwright, from Michaela Farm in Indiana, will be speaking on Saturday about strawbale housing and leading a small group of those interested in pursuing this subject.

Mary Meyer is a massage therapist who practices in Cincinnati and in Oldenburg. Both she and Richard are actively involved in practicing permaculture. Richard Cartwright has designed and built a 1000-square-foot "minimal mass" home costing less than \$4000. He designed and is building, with Mary Meyer, their 1200-square-foot strawbale house. Richard is a sculptor, landscaper and gardener, and is currently the head gardener at Michaela Farm of the Sisters of St. Francis in Oldenburg, Indiana. He has designed and built a greenhouse there and the Michaela Farm solar-powered sign. Richard and Mary's off-the-grid house will feature a solar-powered electric system and a greenhouse-contained wastewater reclamation system.

"Strawbales are perhaps the only building material that can be grown in one year in a completely sustainable production system with positive environmental impact." The environmental benefits of building with strawbales are one aspect Richard and Mary will pursue in their presentation with videotape of building their strawbale house.

The philosophy of building a house with fire safety, energy efficiency, strength, durability, beauty, comfort and health considerations will be considered in their presentation. Richard and Mary will explain the design of their house, as well as the ongoing building process. Their unique house features photovoltaics for electricity and an internal wastewater recycling system modeled after the Biosphere II system as part of the plumbing, as well as multi-level spaces.

Kim Thompson, Dodee Carney and Joy Rostoker from New Leaf Community in Cincinnati will be with us to speak about their cohousing plans. Kim is homeschooling two children. She worked at Covington Community Center for 10 years developing activities for people in the neighborhood. Dodee lived in France for three years and has been a La Leche League leader for the past five years. Joy has been a member of New Leaf since its inception and has been a community organizer of farmers markets and experimental solar greenhouses.

Don Hollister, Yellow Springs Councilman, and Roger Lurie, Township Trustee, will also be with us as persons concerned about affordable housing in Yellow Springs. They will be on the panel Saturday evening.

Please call (513-767-2161 or 767-1461) if you need a brochure and registration form.



## Readers Write

### About Author Morgan and Henry Geiger

You know, whenever I think of Arthur Morgan I think too of Henry Geiger who edited MANAS for 41 years. It was MANAS that introduced me to so many wonderful, worthwhile things—and I am eternally grateful to Henry Geiger for his wisdom because he enriched my life in so many ways. His death, a few years ago, left a great hole in my life. As one gets to my age, there is more comfort in re-reading than approaching new writing. I wonder if anyone else feels that way.

*Madeline Williams, West Vancouver, B.C.*

### About Sustainable Society in Massachusetts

I am excited by many converging movements here in the valley that are on the cutting edge of the "Sustainable Society" movement. Sustainable agriculture is flourishing and spreading—both in community-supported farms (organic & biodynamic) and in leadership at the state (government) level. Good land, including farmland, is increasingly being put into preservation/conservation states and so protected from development. Land trusts are also scattered throughout western Massachusetts and the entire Connecticut River Valley in MA is now the centerpiece of an evolving wildlife refuge. It is heartening to watch the close cooperation developing between public and private institutions and agencies.

Another great advance! The Northwest Sustainable Energy Association (NESEA) is designing a sustainable energy center (resources, programs, publishing, consulting, education) in Greenfield, MA just 30 minutes north of Amherst, MA. And a 9.5-mile bike path opened last November running from Northampton, across the Connecticut River, through the rich farmlands of Hadley and into Amherst through some of my town's conservation areas. Now surrounding towns are seriously working to build bike paths to connect and extend!

*Leslie Giffen, Hadley, MA*

### About Community Service Newsletter

The newsletter continues to be excellent and it is interesting to see its base widen and also the scope, for I do feel that intentional community is more inclusive than formerly.

*Jean Vint, Woodstock, VT*

### Thoughts About Community

Half of what I believe about "community" is sort of what I see in the real world. If you really want to stop speeding down the street, you put in "speed

bumps" – Speed limit signs do nothing. Speed bumps make a change.

The "speed bump" type of changes that helped make community for me were: sharing common communal facilities: downstairs living room, kitchen, bathrooms and parties and chores in a huge Dutch house with several floors and many rooms. Even though we all started out strangers, and had totally disparate taste and interest and nationalities and languages and customs...we became a community through the need of such sharing. The Dutch are also really smart where, by law, every new neighborhood construction has a required percentage of housing – street front shops (with the housing above) – parks – and mass transportation linkage. Construction projects also have a required 2% for neighborhood art. The other real world community creators are children. The Dutch added to this by putting "senior citizen" centers in the same building as day care centers – of mutual benefit and need to both groups.

And then, of course, there is the community of ideology. Which is a nice "rush" here and there...but honestly, you make more friends walking a dog.

*Barry Keaveney, Sierra Vista, AZ*

**About *Ishmael* by Daniel Quinn**

Thank you for sending Community Service [News]-Letter, we enjoyed all of the articles and are interested in knowing more about your fall Conference.

We enclose a short notice about the novel *Ishmael* by Daniel Quinn. All of the articles in your July-August issue touched in some way on what he has to say. If this book is new to you, you might want to read it – we think that it is important because it provides an interesting background on how we get to be who we are.

*Don and Doris Cuddihee, Greer, SC*

## Announcements

### National Land Trust Rally

Held in Chattanooga, Tennessee; Oct. 29 - Nov. 3, 70 expert-led sessions on legal issues, fundraising, public relations, successful land projects, innovative financing mechanisms, public-private partnerships, etc. Speakers include Peter Seligmann, CEO of Conservation International, Edgar S. Woolard, Jr., CEO of Dupont Corporation, and Mollie Beattie, Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Registration is \$245 for members; \$320 for others. To request a registration brochure: Rally '94, Land Trust Alliance, 1319 F Street NW, Suite 501, Washington, D.C. 20004. Phone: 202-638-4725.

### Community Land Trust Conference and Affiliate Meeting

Sponsored by the Institute for Community Economics, this conference will be held November 3-6 at the Sheraton Hartford Hotel in Hartford, Connecticut. It will include training workshops, policy discussions and networking opportunities in the areas of Public Policy, Housing Production and Community Organizing. The program brings community land trusts together in a supportive and unified way at a national level to build on local achievements.

The keynote speaker will be Bill Traynor, founder and principal of Neighborhood Partners, which provides training and technical assistance to community-based groups throughout the U.S.

For registration forms contact Julie Orvis, Institute for Community Economics, 57 School Street, Springfield, MA 01105-1331, or call her at ICE: 413-746-8660.

## E. F. Schumacher Lectures

"The cultivation and expansion of needs is the antithesis of wisdom" – E.F. Schumacher. The Fourteenth Annual E. F. Schumacher Lectures will be held Saturday, October 22, 10:30-3:30 at Sheffield-Sterling-Strathcona Hall, Yale University, New Haven, CT.

Keynote speakers will be Ivan Illich, Author of *Deschooling Society*, *Tools for Conviviality*; and Gar Alperovitz, President of the National Center for Economic Alternatives on the subject of Remembrance for Leopold Kohr, Author of *The Breakdown of Nations*. "Wherever something is wrong, something is too big."

For information: The E. F. Schumacher Society, Box 76A, RD3, Great Barrington, MA 01230. Phone: (413)528-1737, or The Yale Student Environmental Coalition, Box 4663 Yale Station. Phone: (203)432-7222.



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### Membership

Membership is a means of supporting and sharing the work of Community Service. The Basic \$25 annual membership contribution includes a subscription to our bimonthly Newsletter and 10% off Community Service-published literature. Larger contributions are always needed, however, and smaller ones will be gladly accepted. Community Service is a nonprofit corporation which depends on contributions and the sale of literature to fund its work so that it can offer its services to those who need them. All contributions are appreciated, needed and tax-deductible. Due to added postage costs, foreign membership, including Canada, is \$30 in U.S. currency.

### Have Your Friends Seen The Newsletter?

Please send the names and addresses of your friends who might enjoy receiving a sample Newsletter and booklist. If you wish specific issues sent, please send \$1 per copy.

### Editor's Note

We welcome letters to the editor (under 300 words) and articles (700-2000 words) about any notable communities or people who are improving the quality of life in their communities. Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you wish the article returned. The only compensation we can offer is the satisfaction of seeing your words in print and knowing you have helped spread encouraging and/or educational information.

### Editor's Note #2

We occasionally exchange our mailing list with a group with similar purposes, such as the Arthur Morgan School at Celo or Communities Magazine. If you do not wish us to give your name to anyone, please let us know.

### Address Change

If there is an error on your mailing label, or you are moving, please send the old label and any corrections to us. It increases our cost greatly if the Post Office notifies us of moves, and you will not receive your newsletter promptly.

# Contents

*Printed on Recycled Paper*

Reuse, Recycle and Revitalize .....	Barbara Ruben .....	1
Creating a Cohousing Community .....	James Klosterman & Kirsten Metzger .....	6
Virtual CoHousing: Creating Community in Existing Neighborhoods .....	Ben Lipman .....	7
1994 CSI Conference: Building Community With Affordable Housing .....		8
Readers Write .....		9
Announcements.....		10



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*You can tell when your Community Service membership expires by looking at the month and year in the upper left corner of your mailing label. Please renew your membership now if it has expired or will expire before 11/94. The minimum membership contribution is \$25 per year. We do not send individual reminders to renew.*

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Address Correction Requested

